



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND POLICY

UCF Student Government
GAP Committee Meeting
Charge On Chamber
06/12/2025
3:00 PM

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 3:05 PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum (8): 10/14

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Chair Varela	Sgagap@ucf.edu	P	P
Vice Chair Candiloro	sga_sci3@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Chauhan	sgachps1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Correlli	sga_ba2@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Escobar	sgachps2@ucf.edu	A	A
Senator Faucette	sga_grst2@ucf.edu	E	E
Senator Nasim	sgachps3@ucf.edu	E	E
Senator Paul	sga_cah1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Reed	sga_cah2@ucf.edu	E (3:16)	P
Senator Renda	sga_sci10@ucf.edu	E	E
Senator Rickett		A	A
Senator Scott	sga_ba8@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Smith	sgacie4@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Varghese	sga_cah4@ucf.edu	P	P
LJR Representative	Sga_ljr@ucf.edu	P	P
Pro Tempore Representative	Sga_pro@ucf.edu	P	P

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3. Approval of the Minutes: [06.12.2025](#) **Approved by GC**
4. Approval of the Agenda: **Approved by: GC**
5. Open Forum:
 - a. None
6. Announcements from the Chair:
 - a. Hi all! I hope you had a refreshing Juneteenth holiday. Today will probably be dense so bear with me and listen intently.
 - b. Governmental Affairs Coordinator DeMarco will join us today to briefly introduce herself and take questions from you all about DATC. Please treat her with respect and prepare thoughtful and prudent questions to ask
 - c. We will then work on the GAP newsletter for 10-15 mins. I hope you brought your headlines to suggest
 - d. Then we will transition to a short conversation about my plans for the legislative priorities survey for this year
 - e. We will end the meeting with a Florida civics discussion on how to read and bill and staff analysis
7. Announcements from the Vice Chair:
 - a. Hi, everyone! A lot of news in the world recently to discuss. I am excited to see what you found for the newsletter.
8. Announcements from Committee Members:
 - a. LJR Rep: Saw 7 Absences. Notification of non-compliance for Chief Justice.
9. Announcements from Non-Committee Members:
 - a. GAC Demarco: Hi everyone. Met with JC for DATC. You will all be working on the advocacy agenda.
 - i. Candiloro Thought on the advocacy agenda this year and what the groups will look like this year?
 - ii. Demarco: Legislation is related to academics and student life experiences. Closer to the day and what was gathered from the survey. More education focused. Discussed the year before there was one person dedicated to one priority in each group. If there were a group of 5 they each had 1-2 bills to lobby for. Effective in previous years. One person who previously went to DATC to be in each group
 - iii. Chauhan: What will the interview process look like? Third party? Rubric?

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- iv. Demarco: I will have a rubric. I think it will be just me. Want everyone who is able to come to go. Everyone will submit an application on KnightConnect, interview, then score on rubric.
- v. Varela: We discussed the application to make it fair.
- vi. Demarco: I have a mock itinerary. DATCi is where we go to the FL legislature with bills we have a stake in as students. We put out the survey and students can discuss their experiences and what is going on in their life and we lobby for them, Connection hour at lunch to meet with UCF Alum, faculty, and Leg. Scholars. Just a breakdown, lobby in a professional manner. Teams me with any questions.

10. Old Business:

- a. Resolutions
 - i. None

11. New Business:

- a. Resolutions
 - i. None
- b. GAP Weekly
 - i. Postponed to EOM.
 - ii. https://www.canva.com/design/DAGre90F-oA/MvXnyiuQi8j4ftA0x8GI7g/edit?utm_content=DAGre90F-oA&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton
 - iii. UCF: <https://www.ucf.edu/news/introducing-john-buckwalter-ucfs-next-provost/>
 - iv. State: <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/governance/accreditation/2025/06/25/desantis-announces-launch-new-accreditor>
<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/743872-delray-beach-to-receive-15m-settlement-over-forever-chemicals-contamination/>

Federal:

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/government/politics-elections/2025/06/25/cte-advocates-worry-about-eds-plans-programs>

UCF:

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<https://www.ucf.edu/news/ucf-appoints-sharon-tucker-as-next-dean-of-the-college-of-nursing/>

[UF, UCF hold workshop to prep teachers for U.S.'s 250th](#)

Orlando:

<https://www.orlandosentinel.com/2025/06/26/florida-students-show-across-the-board-growth-on-state-math-reading-tests/>

<https://www.fox13news.com/news/florida-fast-tracks-alligator-alcatraz-detention-center-everglades>

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/744910-camp-blanding-ron-desantis/>

Bills:

<https://www.flgov.com/eog/news/press/2025/governor-ron-desantis-signs-troopers-law-and-dexters-law>

c. Legislative Priorities Survey

- i. Varela: Traditionally, the GAP committee has used the legislative priorities survey as a sort of “be all, end all” for deciding which bills to bring to DATC. This year though, I want to use it as more of a tool to determine what issues are important to the students but leaving room for our own good judgment to identify issues, priorities, and bills, that we are more likely to get traction on in Tallahassee. As such, I will be redesigning the survey from last year to be slimmer and only including broad topics the students are passionate about as it will be our job to find bills in the legislature that are both worth lobbying and relevant to the students’ interest.

d. Florida Civics

- i. Varela: Today’s discussion is extremely important. Being able to quickly determine what a bill is about and what it does along with the political context around the bill quickly will be vital to success of DATC prep. What we learn today will be our bread and butter come Fall so please listen intently and be engaged.
- ii. [How to read a bill/staff analysis](#)

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12. Member Discussion:

- a. None

13. Miscellaneous Business:

- a. Icebreaker:

i. Favorite Orlando Restaurant/Location:

- a. Reed: Yummy Taste-Chinese food
- b. Corelli: Chipotle-Authentic Mexican
- c. Smith: Brewsters-Ice Cream
- d. Matthews: Chipotle
- e. Candiloro: Fresh Donuts
- f. Paul: Raising Canes
- g. Varghese: Han Coffee
- h. Chauhan: Dutch Bros-Coffee
- i. Kaufman: BJ's-Pizookies
- j. DeMarco: White Rabbit Dessert experience-coffee
- k. Scott: Cheddar's
- l. Varela: Jimmy Hula's-Carribean Tacos

14. Final Roll Call: 11/14

15. Adjournment: 4:03 PM

Key:

- P - Present
- A - Absent
- MTD - Move to Debate
- MTV - Move to Vote
- MTA- Move to Amend
- PP - Postpone
- PPI - Postpone Indefinitely
- GC - General Consent

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